



Chapter 2: Community Vision and Values

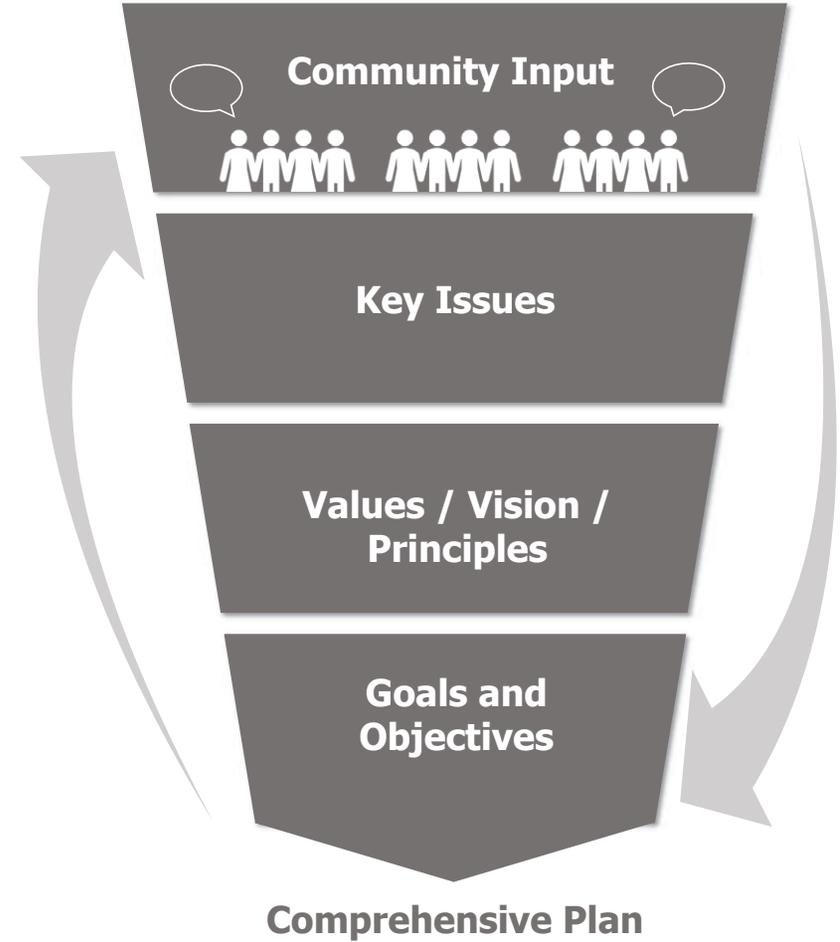
What We've Heard
Community Values
Plan Principles

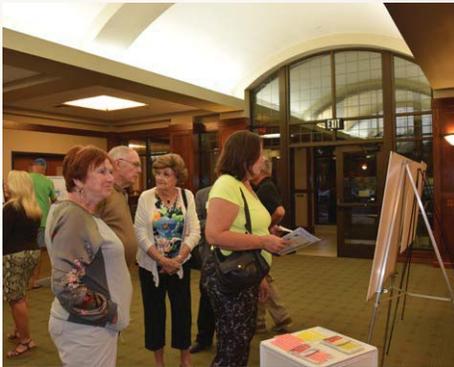


Defining a Community

Vision

A vision is not a single statement. It is a collection of values and principles that shape the future of the community. The goals and detailed recommendations of the Lake Saint Louis Comprehensive Plan are rooted in the values of the community. Key issues were identified through in-depth listening and a process that made sure the plan was on the right track at multiple stages throughout the process.





What We Have Heard

One of the key purposes of the engagement process is to identify key issues and concerns within the community. The planning team has heard a lot about the City from its wonderful residents. There is truly a passion from the community in making Lake Saint Louis a great place to live and work. This page summarizes some of the key items that have been heard from the engagement process.

COMMUNITY STRENGTHS

- Regional location
- Good place for families
- The lakes
- Sense of community
- Good schools
- Community amenities
- Homeowner Association amenities
- Community aesthetics and quality development
- Small town atmosphere
- Natural resources
- Parks, recreation, and outdoor lifestyle
- Perception of affluence
- Low crime

COMMUNITY WEAKNESSES

- First impression of the city from major entries, especially I-70
- Lack of dining options (especially upscale)
- Key gaps in walking and biking network
- Perception of not appealing to millennials
- Lack of community cohesion: Physical separation within the city caused by I-64
- Lack of community cohesion: LSLCA and Non-CA residents experience the city differently
- Uptown area
- Lack of parking for LSLCA events
- Lack of consistency in development review process
- Lack of a community meeting facility
- Some signs of retail fatigue

THREATS TO THE COMMUNITY

- Balancing future growth and community character
- Development that doesn't meet expectations of community aesthetics
- Aging housing stock
- Aging population and the ability to keep a diversity of residents
- Meeting the housing needs for a diverse spectrum of residents
- Aging utilities
- Lack of community cohesion
- Competition for development from surrounding communities
- Decline of the Meadows shopping center
- Lack of attention to economic development
- Loss of economic synergy
- School growth that outstrips facilities
- Water quality of lakes
- Traffic congestion on Hwy N

Our Community Values

Community values are the building blocks of the plan. They are the core beliefs of city residents and help shape the plan vision, principles, and goals.

We value....

....our small town atmosphere.

....the ability to walk or bicycle to community destinations such as school, parks, and stores.

....our natural setting that makes us unique from surrounding communities.

....our high quality housing that contributes to lasting community value.

....our lakes that help shape our community identity.

....our outdoor lifestyle of parks, recreation, and lakes.

....our diversity of residents including families, retirees, youth, college graduates, singles, etc.

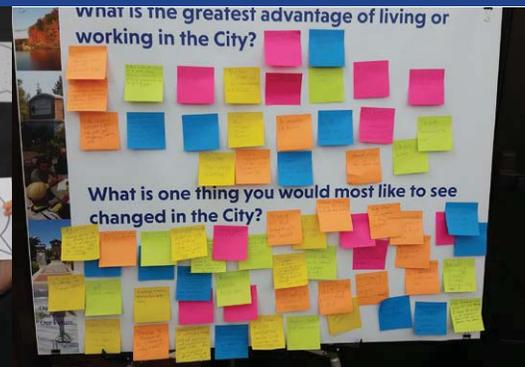
....the ability to work, shop, and dine without having to leave the city.

....a cohesive community, where all residents feel they are part of a single community.

....the appearance of our community, especially the first impression of our city for visitors and residents.

....utilities and community services that are well-planned, fiscally responsible, and well-maintained.

.... our local economy that accommodates retail and office growth to ensure job opportunities, needed public revenue, and entrepreneurship, but preserves the character and charm of the City.



Plan Principles

The community values shape the six plan principles for the Lake Saint Louis Comprehensive Plan. Each plan principle is rooted in one or more of the core community values. The plan principles are the overall framework for the plan providing the hierarchy for detailed goals, recommendations, and implementation actions.

Making Sure We Listened

As the plan progressed, the planning team strived to ensure that plan principles, goals, and recommendations aligned with what was heard from the community.

At the second open house, attendees reviewed the draft plan principles and key goals. Attendees were asked if the plan was on the right track. Attendees overwhelmingly said that the plan principles and key goals were great or generally good.

Attendees at the third open house used key-pad polling to provide input on the draft recommendations and plan elements. Responses were very positive and confirmed that the plan was on the right track.

The draft plan was refined based on input at the fourth open house and comments received during the public review of the draft plan.

